

Harford County Commission on Veteran's Affairs (HCCOVA), Meeting Agendas & Meeting Minutes
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Minutes, December 7, 2017
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Agenda, July 6, 2017 - NO MEETING

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Agenda, February 2, 2017



Harford County Commission on Veterans Affairs Meeting Notes

December 7, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Brown at 6:32 p.m. in the Conference Room, 220 S. Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland.

Attending: Bob Brown, Hayden Anthony, Lisa Brown, Janice Cassady, Art Kaff, Scott Kearby, Bill Montgomery, Patricia O'Keefe, Larry Owens, Deacon Vic Petrosino, Pam Silcox,

Excused: Councilman McMahan (liaison), Jim Castelli, Mary Worthington, Bill Elliott

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Brown. Prayer was led by Deacon Vic.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the November HCCOVA meeting were sent to commission members for review prior to the December meeting. Chairman Brown called for any corrections or additions to the minutes. After none were raised, Hayden Anthony motioned for approval of the minutes and Janice Cassady seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by commission members.

Opening Comments:

Robert Brown stated two commission members were absent due to TDY & work duties. He provided a listing of upcoming events, to include the Wreaths Across America on December 16th. He then provided a summary of the requests received for assistance. Bill Montgomery suggested the requests be distributed to the members, as appropriate. Hayden Anthony added that he can assist with County requests.

Opening Comments from Appointed Members:

Comments were deferred to the Old and New Business.

OLD BUSINESS

Mission and Vision Review – Robert Brown

- County Executive Glassman, Chief of Staff Boniface & Councilman McMahon (commission liaison) approved all changes to the mission & vision statements.
- Next step is a formal vote by commission members. If approved by the commission, changes will be presented to the County Council as a resolution.

- Scott Kearby motioned for approval of the new mission and vision statements and Patty O’Keefe seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by commission members.

Mission: To advocate for our veterans and their families, and connect them to resources through outreach and education.

Vision: A Harford County community that is responsive to the needs of Veterans and their families.

Resource Fair Report – all members of the commission

- Major aspects of the Resource Fair report from last month were reviewed since there was limited number of commission members at previous meeting.
- Positives: venue, layout of the venue, save the date flyer, number of attendees, number of vendors/resource organizations, marketing (including radio interview), food/drinks (including involvement of Lions Club), raffle prizes.
- Thoughts Looking Forward: continued marketing early & widespread (including veteran service organizations & possible direct mail to VA voucher recipients); change date (2018 Resource Fair will be held on Saturday, November 10th); coordinate with Harford Transit about the possibility of providing transportation to the Resource Fair.

Recording Secretary – Robert Brown

- Since quorum requirements were met, Chairperson Brown announced vote for Recording Secretary. Patty O’Keefe motioned for the nomination/approval of Lisa Brown, and Scott Kearby seconded the motion. After no other nominations were put forth, commission members voted and the motion was unanimously approved by commission members.

Outreach Activity Ideas – Robert Brown

- Discussion regarding the selecting of veteran events/activities to support/attend throughout the year, such as Habitat for Humanity repair/house build
 - Following discussion, Hayden Anthony motioned for a HCCOVA to complete a project with Habitat for Humanity. Pam Silcox seconded the motioned which was unanimously approved by commission members.
 - Hayden will coordinate with Habitat POC (Jeremy) to select project/date.
- Beyond whole group activities, discussion followed on commission members selecting an organization, activity or event to support. In this manner, the HCCOVA can support individual veterans as well as groups at the same time. The HCCOVA is not a VSO (Veterans Service Organization), but individuals wanting to provide outreach (our mission). Recommendations:
 - hospital visits (such as the program discussed by Mr. Siegel at October 2017 meeting)
 - Heroes on the Water
 - therapy dogs
 - writing letters of support to County Executive Glassman of legislation that benefits veterans

- Veteran's Court – some recent changes might create a more receptive environment for the initiation of a veteran's court in Harford County.
- Important to know the pressing needs while recognizing each veteran has different needs/requests for assistance and support.

NEW BUSINESS

Partnership with Resource Fair Vendors/Agencies –

- Discussion centered on going beyond the Veterans Resource Fair and keep supporters and other agencies involved throughout the year.
- This would include their willingness to be linked on the HCCOVA website, as well as a referral resource commission members can use when providing outreach to a veteran.
- Lisa will contact the participants from the Veterans Resource Fair to initiate these partnerships.

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Veterans Benefits Update: At County Council meeting on November 21st (7 PM), County Executive Glassman & HC Treasurer presented proposal to give 20% property tax credit to retired military residents over the age of 65, and residents over the age of 65 who have lived in the same dwelling for 40 or more years. Several veterans attended the meeting & spoke in support of this legislation, including Bob Brown and Johnny Boker.

Wreaths Across America: Saturday, December 16th @ 12 PM. Volunteers will meet at Bel Air Memorial Gardens for a brief ceremony followed by placing wreaths on the graves of veterans. They are still looking for volunteers & financial support for this program.

January Meeting: Since HCCOVA charter specifies 9 business meetings per year, discussion was initiated on suspending the monthly meeting for January. Patty O'Keefe motioned for approval and Hayden Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by commission members

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Prepared by Lisa Brown



HARFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

December 7, 2017, 6:30 PM

County Office Building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, MD
Conference room located on ground floor.
Enter from Main Street

CALL TO ORDER –Chairman, Bob Brown

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – all in attendance

PRAYER – Deacon Vic

WELCOME, OPENING COMMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Opening comments from Chair Bob Brown

Acknowledgement of Guests

Mission Statement: To provide outreach and "To care for those who shall have borne the battle, and for their widow, and their orphan" – Abraham Lincoln

Vision Statement: Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Approval of the September and October minutes.

OPENING COMMENTS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Hayden Anthony (Vice Chair) – Education & Community Outreach

Arthur Kaff – Technology, Social Media & Legal

Bill Elliott – Technology & Represent Harford Community College

Bill Montgomery – Education, JROTC Initiative, Community Outreach

Bill Suchting – Veterans Benefits, Represent Harford Chamber of Commerce

James Castelli – Education & Veterans Outreach

Lisa Brown – Community Outreach

Larry Owens – Community Outreach

Mary Worthington – Community Outreach & Employment;

Pam Silcox – Education & Community Outreach

Scott Kearby – Education & Community Outreach

Patricia O'Keefe – Community Outreach

Janice Cassady - Education

(Vacant) – Representative for Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander

Chaplain Updates and comments. Chaplain Vic Petrosino

OLD BUSINESS:

- Veterans Resource Fair Report
- Mission and Vision Statements vote
- Outreach Activities and Ideas
- Voting for a Recording Secretary

SUB-COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT AND UPDATES:

- Veterans Benefits Updates: News, Articles, and Updates.
- Education
- JROTC
- Social Media and Technology
- Community Outreach
- Employment
- Legal

NEW BUSINESS

- Keeping supporters engaged throughout the year
- January Meeting

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next meeting scheduled is January 4, 2018.
- Meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of the month unless otherwise announced.
- Final comments/alibi's from members and guests.

ADJOURNMENT



Harford County Commission on Veterans Affairs Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Brown at 6:34 p.m. in the Conference Room, 220 S. Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland.

Attending: Hayden Anthony, Lisa Brown, Bob Brown, Janice Cassady, Laura Knight, Bill Kinsley

Excused: Councilman McMahan (liaison), Jim Castelli, Mary Moses, Art Kaff, Bill Montgomery, Pam Silcox, Deacon Vic Petrosino,, Patricia O’Keefe, Bill Elliott, Scott Kearby

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Brown. Prayer was led by Chairman Brown.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the October HCCOVA meeting were sent to commission members for review prior to the November meeting. Chairman Brown called for any corrections or additions to the minutes. After none were raised, Hayden Anthony motioned for approval of the minutes and Janice Cassady seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by commission members.

Opening Comments:

Robert Brown stated a number of commission members were absent due to TDY & work duties.

Opening Comments from Appointed Members:

Janice Cassidy – Attended the National Association of College Administrators Conference and the workshop on the “Forever GI Bill”. She stated the bill was passed so quickly that not all benefits of the legislation are in place right now. Benefits already implemented include the elimination of the 15-year time limit on the use of education benefits for new recruits.

Janice also discussed HCC classes at APG – open to all students, but more convenient location for military and APG employees. Registration for classes is available through HCC.

Janice presented information on HCC’s 3rd annual Military Appreciation Night for active military/veteran HCC students and their families. The event is scheduled for Friday, November 10th, starting with HCC women’s basketball game and a dinner reception. After dinner there is a HCC men’s basketball game which all veterans are invited to attend & be recognized for their

service to our country. There are approximately 170-200 active HCC students who are veterans, so with wide publicity (& great raffle prizes), Janice is hoping for a good turnout.

GUESTS/PRESENTATIONS:

Ms. Barbara Richardson, Director of Housing & Community Development, Harford County Government presented information on housing development and homelessness prevention. She stated the county is committed to ending veterans' homelessness in Harford County & discussed the repair, rental and loan programs, as well as counseling services and housing choice voucher program. Veterans need a referral from VA for this program & then the county administers the vouchers. Harford County is scheduled to receive approximately 20 more VA housing vouchers than last year. Currently, there are approximately 40-50 homeless veterans in Harford County, some of which may not be ready to accept services yet. The goal of "housing first" may help veterans establish themselves & other things fall into place.

OLD BUSINESS

Resource Fair Report –Hayden Anthony

- More than doubled the number of attendees (approximately 130 veterans) from last year
- 28 of the 35 vendors scheduled attended the resource fair.
- Positives: venue, number of attendees, number of vendors/resource organizations, marketing, food/drinks, raffle prizes.
- Thoughts Looking Forward: continued marketing early & widespread (including veteran service organizations); change date (2018 Resource Fair will be held on Saturday, November 11th); coordinate with Harford Transit about the possibility of providing transportation to the Resource Fair.

Mission and Vision Review – Robert Brown

- County Executive Glassman, Chief of Staff Boniface & Councilman McMahon (commission liaison) approved all changes to the mission & vision statements.
- Next step is a formal vote by commission members. If approved by the commission, changes will be presented to the County Council as a resolution.
- Vote was tabled until next meeting to allow for more commission members to cast their vote & verify the quorum necessary for a formal vote. .

Mission: To advocate for our veterans and their families, and connect them to resources through outreach and education.

Vision: A Harford County community that is responsive to the needs of Veterans and their families.

NEW BUSINESS

- The vote for recording secretary was tabled until next month (quorum requirements)

Outreach Activity Ideas – Robert Brown

- selecting veteran events/activities to support/attend throughout the year, such as Habitat for Humanity repair/house build
- Hire Heroes job fair – separate from on-post or in coordination with existing fair
- additional discussion of ideas at next meeting

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Veterans Benefits Update: At County Council meeting on November 21st (7 PM), County Executive Glassman & HC Treasurer will present proposal to give 20% property tax credit to retired military residents over the age of 65, and residents over the age of 65 who have lived in the same dwelling for 40 or more years. Councilman McMahon has asked to publicize for attendees at event & anyone willing to speak in support of this legislation.

No Shave November: collection of toiletry items by HC offices will be donated to various organizations including veterans at Perry Point Medical Center.

November 11th: HC Historical Society will host a presentation about WWI at the Bel Air Armory from 10:30 am – 1 pm.

November 9th: HC Government Veterans Employee Breakfast from 8:30-9:30 in the conference room, 220 S. Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland.

Introduction of Laura Knight – new member to the commission. She has personal experience with someone's struggle with PTSD and seeking benefits/treatment and wants to help veterans in any way she is able,

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



HARFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

November 2, 2017, 6:30 PM
County Office Building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, MD
Conference room located on ground floor.
Enter from Main Street

CALL TO ORDER –Chairman, Bob Brown

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – all in attendance

PRAYER –

WELCOME, OPENING COMMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Opening comments from Chair Bob Brown

Mission Statement: To provide outreach and "To care for those who shall have borne the battle, and for their widow, and their orphan" – Abraham Lincoln

Vision Statement: Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Approval of the September minutes.

OPENING COMMENTS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Hayden Anthony (Vice Chair) – Education & Community Outreach
Arthur Kaff – Technology, Social Media & Legal
Bill Elliott – Technology & Represent Harford Community College
Bill Montgomery – Education, JROTC Initiative, Community Outreach
Bill Suchting – Veterans Benefits, Represent Harford Chamber of Commerce
James Castelli – Education & Veterans Outreach
Lisa Brown – Community Outreach
Larry Owens – Community Outreach
Mary Worthington – Community Outreach & Employment;
Pam Silcox – Education & Community Outreach
Scott Kearby – Education & Community Outreach
Patricia O'Keefe –
Janice Cassady - Education
(Vacant) – Representative for Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander

Chaplain Updates and comments. Chaplain Vic Petrosino

GUEST SPEAKER: Barbara W. Richardson, Community Development Administrator, Harford County Dept. of Housing & Community Development.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Veterans Resource Fair Report
- Mission and Vision Statements review status
- Outreach Activities Ideas

SUB-COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT AND UPDATES:

- Veterans Benefits Updates: News, Articles, and Updates.
- Education
- JROTC
- Social Media and Technology
- Community Outreach
- Employment
- Legal

NEW BUSINESS

- Voting for a Recording Secretary

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next meeting will be December 7, 2017.
- Meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of the month unless otherwise announced.
- Final comments/alibi's from members and guests.

ADJOURNMENT



Harford County Commission on Veterans Affairs Meeting Notes

October 5, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Brown at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room, 220 S. Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland.

Attending: Hayden Anthony, Lisa Brown, Bob Brown, Jim Castelli, Mary Moses, Art Kaff, Bill Montgomery, Pam Silcox, Deacon Vic Petrosino, Mary Worthington, Janice Cassady, Patricia O'Keefe, Bill Elliott, Scott Kearby

Excused: Councilman McMahan (liaison)

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Brown. Prayer was led by Deacon Petrosino.

Opening Comments:

Robert Brown restated the mission and vision statements:

To provide outreach and "To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" --- Lincoln

Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

Chairman Brown opened with comments that the Resource Fair would be the main emphasis of the meeting since there is only two days remaining before the event, and there are quite a few details to go over.

Chairman Brown also discussed the findings of an audit of HCCOVA records and reviewed the corrective actions that would be implemented to meet full compliance. Hayden Anthony completed *Maryland Open Meeting Act* training and will advise the commission on requirements, including posting of the agenda and minutes from every meeting. Going forward, Scott Kearby will post both items on the HCCOVA website.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the September HCCOVA meeting were sent to commission members for review prior to the October meeting. Chairman Brown called for any corrections or additions to the minutes. After none were raised, Bill Elliott motioned for approval of the minutes and Hayden

Anthony seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by commission members.

Opening Comments from Appointed Members:

Art Kaff – The Veterans Resource Fair is publicized on the HCCOVA Facebook page and the Facebook address was added to the Resource Fair materials. Asked that members continue to share the Facebook address to boost our numbers and visibility. We currently have 314 “Likes.”.

Janice Cassidy – Will attend the National Association of College Administrators Conference and will get additional information on the “Forever GI Bill” which expands the post 9/11 GI Bill and eliminates the 15-year time limit on the use of education benefits for new recruits.

Bill Elliott – HCC will host a military appreciation event on Friday, November 10th for active military & veteran students and their families. The event will include dinner, door prizes and attendance at a HCC basketball game.

Scott Kearby – Attended the Gold Star Memorial groundbreaking ceremony in Havre de Grace on September 11th. Also discussed the HCCOVA website has been updated to include useful links to various resources. Website can be accessed through Harford County home page or by searching for Harford County Veterans Commission.

Patty O’Keefe – Attended PTSD roundtable on September 14th at American Legion in Aberdeen. Duke Thompson starting a music therapy program at Perry Point and hopes to continue program demonstrations on a regular basis.

Deacon Vic Petrosino – Attended the Military and Veterans Mental Health Summit in Delaware on September 14th. Discussed two of the biggest issues confronting many veterans are a sense of hopelessness and the shame & guilt associated with moral injury while serving in the military. Also discussed how people can help veterans by being present & listening to their story/experiences. He also stated that October is Suicide Prevention month.

GUESTS/PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Allen Siegel, Director of Spiritual Care Services, Upper Chesapeake Hospital. The IT department has worked with the demographics portion of in processing paperwork to embed veteran information/identification. This will provide a hospital visitation outreach opportunity for members of the Commission and other military service organization members. Organizations will submit a list of individuals interested in participating in this program. Mr. Siegel will vet individuals so there are no HIPPA violations. After completing a one-hour training program, individuals can visit with hospitalized veterans as agents of the chaplain. The goal is to have military personnel visit military personnel. Mr. Siegel requested a list of military organizations in Harford County. Pam Silcox will forward this information.



HARFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

October 5, 2017, 6:30 PM

County Office Building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, MD
Conference room located on ground floor.

Enter from Main Street

CALL TO ORDER –Chairman, Bob Brown

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – all in attendance

PRAYER – Deacon Vic

WELCOME, OPENING COMMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Opening comments from Chair Bob Brown

Mission Statement: To provide outreach and "To care for those who shall have borne the battle, and for their widow, and their orphan" – Abraham Lincoln

Vision Statement: Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Approval of the September minutes.

OPENING COMMENTS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Arthur Kaff – Technology, Social Media & Legal
Bill Elliott – Technology & Represent Harford Community College
Bill Montgomery – Education, JROTC Initiative, Community Outreach
Bill Suchting – Veterans Benefits, Represent Harford Chamber of Commerce
Hayden Anthony (Vice Chair) – Education & Community Outreach
James Castelli – Education & Veterans Outreach
Lisa Brown – Community Outreach
Larry Owens – Community Outreach
Mary Worthington – Community Outreach & Employment; Recording Secretary
Pam Silcox – Education & Community Outreach
Scott Kearby – Education & Community Outreach
Patricia O'Keefe –
Janice Cassady -
(Vacant) – Representative for Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander

Chaplain Updates and comments. Chaplain Vic Petrosino

GUEST SPEAKER: Allen Siegel, Director of Spiritual Care Services, University of Maryland, Upper Chesapeake Health. Opportunity to visit veterans at Upper Chesapeake, and, the training and administrative requirements.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Veterans Resource Fair Update, Status, Tasks
- Mission and Vision Statements review status

SUB-COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT AND UPDATES:

- Veterans Benefits Updates: News, Articles, and Updates.
- Education
- JROTC
- Social Media and Technology
- Community Outreach
- Employment
- Legal

NEW BUSINESS

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FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next meeting will be November 2, 2017.
- Meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of the month unless otherwise announced.
- Final comments/alibi's from members and guests.

ADJOURNMENT

Harford County Commission on Veterans Affairs Meeting Notes

September 7, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Brown at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room, 220 S. Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland.

Attending: Hayden Anthony, Lisa Brown, Bob Brown, Jim Castelli, Mary Moses, Art Kaff, Scott Kearby, Bill Montgomery, Pam Silcox, Deacon Vic Petrosino, Mary Worthington, Janice Cassady, Patricia O’Keefe, Tracy Landry, Bill Kinsley, Gerald Williams

Excused: Bill Elliott, Scott Kearby, Councilman McMahan (liaison)

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Brown. Prayer was led by Deacon Petrosino.

Opening Comments:

Robert Brown restated the mission and vision statements:

To provide outreach and “To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan” --- Lincoln

Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

Chairman Brown opened with comments that the Resource Fair would be the main emphasis of the meeting since there is only one month remaining before the event, and there are quite a few details to go over.

The August 18th MACo Session, “Serving Those Who Served Our Country” moderated by Capt’n Jim was big success. Capt’n Jim provided insight into the HCCOVA and the origin of the Commission. Attendees asked questions about the HCCOVA and Capt’n Jim and Robert Brown discussed current and past initiatives and successes.

Opening Comments from Appointed Members:

Bill Montgomery – Discussed whether JROTC is within our mission. Discussion followed that Harford County is on the list for JROTC schools, but there are many schools across the country ahead of us. Bill suggested that the committee’s Aberdeen Proving Ground representative come from the Installation Commander and not the Garrison Commander. We need to decide if that should be Capt’n Jim or someone else making that decision and then meeting with the Installation Commander if we decide to change. It might also require a Bylaws change.

Art Kaff – Asked that members continue to share the Facebook address to boost our numbers and visibility. We currently have 308 “Likes.” The Facebook address was added to the Resource Fair materials. Art will talk with Gerald Williams, Omni Technologies, about use of Facebook.

Janice Cassidy – Talked briefly about the passage of the “Forever GI Bill.” The bill will expand the post 9/11 GI Bill and eliminate the 15-year time limit on the use of education benefits for new recruits.

Mary Worthington – Mary announced that due to her schedule she will not be able to continue as Commission Recording Secretary. The announcement was made that anyone interested in becoming the Recording Secretary should contact Chairman Brown.

Deacon Vic Petrosino – Discussed the Hospital visitation outreach opportunity. Veterans are identified at Upper Chesapeake hospital, and may be visited by members of the Commission. Deacon Vic provided contact information for Mr. Allen Siegel, Director of Spiritual Care Services to Chairman Brown. Mr. Siegel will contact the Commission to speak during a future meeting.

GUESTS/PRESENTATIONS:

Gerard Williams, Chief Operations Officer at OMNI Technologies gave a brief overview of his company, and said that they do hire veterans. He said he would like to stay involved with the commission and help out from a business perspective in any way he can.

Tracy Landry, VerUS for Veterans, who also spoke during the August Commission meeting, provided more information on the FamFest and the VerUS BBQ Bash, The price of the BBQ Bash was reduced. FamFest will be held at the Maryland Fair Grounds November 4th.

OLD BUSINESS

Resource Fair – Pam Silcox and Hayden Anthony provided updates to the Veteran Resource Fair planning.

- There are over 24 vendors scheduled to attend.
- Commission members will be needed to help set up and assist during the event, and then clean up. Hayden suggestion members show up at 7:30am.
- Hayden will that verify Cindy Smith will give a short talk on benefits.
- Opening remarks: County Executive (Glassman). Unfortunately Council Liaison Capt’n McMahan has another commitment at the same time and will not be able to attend. He provided comments for Commission Chairman Brown.
- Singing of National Anthem is by Dee Jones. Marine Corp League will post the colors
- Logistics. There will be more tables needed than last year Hayden is working on obtaining additional tables. Tables will be in parallel rows and not in a U shape to accommodate the addition of more vendors

- Pam Silcox, Hayden Anthony and Robert Brown met with Cindy Mumby to discuss marketing strategies. Ms. Mumby provided several suggestions and will assist with banners and publicity. Hayden said the city will pay for the banners, which will be hung on the county building and at the Armory.
- Refreshments may be a possibility. The planning groups is looking into food trucks.
- There will be a free raffle for attendees. Members are asked to bring an item for the raffle. Examples are gift cards, military items, books, etc. Lisa Brown will be collecting the items.

Mission and Vision Review – Jim Castelli led a reading and review of the Commission Duties as specified in the Bylaws. After considerable discussion, it was agreed by members that the duties are still valid and appropriate. This review was a first step in the review of the mission and vision. Jim and his working group will continue to review and gather suggestions.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice Chairperson – Hayden Anthony volunteered to be the Vice-Chairperson. There were no other nominations. Mr. Anthony was voted in unanimously.

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 5, 2017. This is an important meeting as it is the last Commission Meeting before the Resource Fair.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Prepared by Robert Brown



HARFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

September 7, 2017, 6:30 PM

County Office Building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, MD
Conference room located on ground floor.

Enter from Main Street

CALL TO ORDER –Chairman, Bob Brown

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – all in attendance

PRAYER – Deacon Vic

WELCOME, OPENING COMMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Opening comments from Chair Bob Brown

Mission Statement: To provide outreach and "To care for him, (them) who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" – Abraham Lincoln

Vision Statement: Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

OPENING COMMENTS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Arthur Kaff – Technology, Social Media & Legal
Bill Elliott – Technology & Represent Harford Community College
Bill Montgomery – Education, JROTC Initiative, Community Outreach
Bill Suchting – Veterans Benefits, Represent Harford Chamber of Commerce
Hayden Anthony – Education & Community Outreach
James Castelli – Education & Veterans Outreach
Lisa Brown – Community Outreach
Larry Owens – Community Outreach
Mary Worthington – Community Outreach & Employment; Recording Secretary
Pam Silcox – Education & Community Outreach
Scott Kearby – Education & Community Outreach
(Vacant) – Representative for Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander

Chaplain Updates and comments. Chaplain Vic Petrosino

GUEST SPEAKER: Gerald Williams, Chief Operations Officer at OMNI Technologies. Partnering with the HCCOVA.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Veterans Resource Fair Update
- Nominations/voting for Vice-Chairperson.
- Mission and Vision Statements review status
- Harford County Gold Star Memorial
- Outreach activities suggestion

SUB-COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT AND UPDATES:

- Veterans Benefits Updates: News, Articles, and Updates.
- Education
- JROTC
- Social Media and Technology
- Community Outreach
- Employment
- Legal

NEW BUSINESS

-

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next meeting will be October 5, 2017. This will be our last meeting prior to the fair.
- Meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of the month unless otherwise announced.
- Final comments/alibi's from members and guests.

ADJOURNMENT

Harford County Commission on Veterans Affairs Meeting Notes

August 3, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Brown at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room, 220 S. Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland.

Attending: Hayden Anthony, Lisa Brown, Bob Brown, Jim Castelli, Art Kaff, Scott Kearby, Deacon Vic Petrosino, Bill Elliott, Bill Montgomery, Andy Powell, Patricia O’Keefe, Tracy Landry, Bill Kinsley, Joe Weihls, Tasha Brown, Marc Dellaire, Bill Montgomery, Julie Lepp

Excused: Pam Silcox, Councilman McMahan (liaison)

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Brown. Prayer was led by Deacon Vic Petrosino.

[No meeting held in July, 2017.]

Opening Comments:

Bob Brown restated the mission and vision statements:

To provide outreach and “To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan” --- Lincoln

Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

He added that we are reviewing the mission and vision statements, at the request of several members, through a working group led by Jim Castelli.

Opening Comments from Appointed Members:

Bill Elliott: Harford College will have a Veteran Appreciation night in November. Date TBD.

Bill Montgomery: No progress on JROTC. Discussion concerning if this is a mission we want to continue. MOAA has this as a major item as well. Suggestion we might want to consider Capt’n Jim or County Executive approaching a private school since we are far down the list for a public school. Also discussed work with transitioning soldiers. Asked to be added to Outreach subcommittee.

Hayden Anthony: Discussed volunteer opportunity at BWI USO. Will report back.

Scott Kearby: Provided a demo of the Commission website. He will be adding links to other organizations.

Chaplain Vic filled the group in on the volunteer process at Upper Chesapeake hospital if we want to get involved with visiting veterans. The hospital can ask if the patient is a veteran. He

said that there is a vetting process before anyone can do this. If interested, he has more information.

GUESTS/PRESENTATIONS:

Tracy Landry, VeRUS for Veterans. Provided a description of the VeRUS program and distributed flyers. Program helps wounded vets with finances for service dogs. The VeRUS goal is to promote local businesses while bringing awareness to Wounded Veterans and 1st Responders and Veterans with PTSD. They will attend our Resource Fair and are planning an event at the Armory in October as well as a community event at the Maryland State Fairgrounds on November 4, 2017. More information is available at www.verusforveterans.com.

Marc Dellaire, VA Perry Point Engineer – Provided detailed information on the many changes at Perry Point, highlighting the renovation of houses for homeless vets and the new community living center that is being built. He described the many facility changes taking place at Perry Point to better serve veterans. The housing project includes the new housing project as well as building additional long term care facilities.

OLD BUSINESS

Veterans Resource Fair. (Working Group: Pam Silcox, Hayden Anthony, Bob Brown) Hayden Anthony and Bob Brown discussed the progress and status of planning for the Veterans Resource Fair that will be held October 7th at the Bel Air Armory from 10:30am-1:30pm. Pam has sent out the vendor invitations using the list from last year as well as new additions. She will monitor the responses to ensure there are sufficient tables.

- Hayden has been working with the City of Bel Air to secure the Armory and plan the logistics.
- The Resource Fair will include a no cost raffle of items donated by the members. The raffle will occur throughout the event.
- The group is working on having food at the event, and is securing the necessary permits.
- Help from Committee members is requested for the day of the event to help set up and break down.
- The Fair Working Group will meet with Cindy Mumby, Director, Harford County Office of Governmental and Community Relations to discuss marketing plans for the Resource Fair.

NEW BUSINESS

Announcement was made and request for Vice Chairperson nominations. No one has volunteered so far. Assuming we have someone come forward, we will vote next meeting.

Andy Powell, American Legion, discussed the PTSD Roundtable in Aberdeen on September 16th. Committee members are invited to attend. He distributed flyers.

Bill Elliott discussed an initiative to have non-credit courses eligible for GI Bill since there are many courses that provide job skills that aren't credit courses and therefore not eligible for GI Bill. No further action at this time.

Jim Castelli provided information on reviewing the HCCOVA mission and vision statement. Discussion followed that most organizations periodically review these. Patty O'Keefe and Bill Montgomery volunteered to assist. Any others interested should contact Jim.

Hayden Anthony led the discussion concerning the HCCOVA becoming involved in outreach activities that support veterans and soldiers such as Habitat for Humanity, welcoming home soldiers at BWI, touring McVET, and helping at the USO. Members were asked to come up with ideas and discussion would continue next month.

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Brown informed the group that Capt'n Jim will be the moderator for the Maryland Association of Counties session, "Serving Those Who Served Our Country," August 18th. Speakers include: Capt'n Jim (Moderator), Panelists: Dana S. Hendrickson, Director, Outreach and Advocacy Program Maryland State VA, The Honorable Stephen M. Waugh, Maryland Senate, The Honorable Pat Young, Maryland House of Delegates, and Robert Brown, Chair, Harford County Commission on Veterans' Affairs.

Next meeting will be September 7, 2017 at 6:30pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Prepared by Robert Brown
Not distributed



HARFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

August 3, 2017, 6:30 PM

County Office Building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, MD
Conference room located on ground floor.

Enter from Main Street

CALL TO ORDER –Chairman, Bob Brown

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – all in attendance

PRAYER – Deacon Vic

WELCOME, OPENING COMMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Opening comments from Chair Bob Brown

Mission Statement: To provide outreach and "To care for him, (them) who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" – Abraham Lincoln

Vision Statement: Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

OPENING COMMENTS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Johnny Boker-

Arthur Kaff – Technology, Social Media & Legal

Bill Elliott – Technology & Represent Harford Community College

Bill Montgomery – Education, JROTC Initiative

Bill Suchting – Veterans Benefits, Represent Harford Chamber of Commerce

Hayden Anthony – Education & Community Outreach

James Castelli – Education & Veterans Outreach

Lisa Brown – Community Outreach

Larry Kimble - Outreach & Employment

Larry Owens – Community Outreach

Mary Worthington – Community Outreach & Employment; Recording Secretary

Pam Silcox – Education & Community Outreach

Scott Kearby – Education & Community Outreach

(Vacancy) – Representative for Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander

Chaplain Updates and comments. Chaplain Vic Petrosino; Rabbi Kushi Schusterman; Reverend Rick Haynes

GUEST SPEAKER: Marc Dellaire, Associate Chief, Projects Division, VA. Update on the Perry Point Village construction and physical changes to the Perry Point campus being made to better serve veterans.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Nominations for Vice-Chairperson.
- Veterans Resource Fair Update
- Harford County Gold Star Memorial update.

SUB-COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT AND UPDATES:

- Veterans Benefits Updates: News, Articles, and Updates.
- Education
- JROTC
- Social Media and Technology
- Community Outreach
- Employment
- Legal (Veterans Courts revisit in the spring 2017?)

NEW BUSINESS

- Mission Statement and Vision review group. A recommendation was made previously that a group reviews the mission and vision statements and provides suggestions to the commission.
- Outreach activities. Recommendation made to conduct periodic, scheduled, outreach activities.

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Maryland Association of Counties session, "Serving Those Who Served Our Country," August 18th. Speakers: Capt'n Jim (Moderator), Panelists: Dana S. Hendrickson, Director, Outreach and Advocacy Program Maryland State VA, The Honorable Stephen M. Waugh, Maryland Senate, The Honorable Pat Young, Maryland House of Delegates, and Robert Brown, Chair, Harford County Commission on Veterans' Affairs
- Next meeting will be September 7, 2017. Meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of the month unless otherwise announced.
- Final comments from members and guests.

ADJOURNMENT.

*"When the peace treaty is signed, the war isn't over for the veterans, or the family.
It's just starting." — Karl Marlantes*

kearby, scott

From: Button, Deborah <dbutton@harfordcountycouncil.com>
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 4:35 PM
To: Art Kaff; Bill Elliott (belliott@harford.edu); Bill Montgomery (jdoe8015@gmail.com); Bill Suchting (goodbill@aol.com); Bob Brown (brown.r.1627@gmail.com); Button, Deborah; anthony, hayden; James Castelli; James McMahan (captain7417@yahoo.com); Larry L. Owens; Lisa Brown; Mary Worthington; Pam Silcox; kearby, scott; Ben Lay (bapd82@yahoo.com); Deacon Vic Petrosino (deaconvic@stmargaret.org); Ed Daly; Frank Yoakum; Janice Cassady; jellenby@safeharbors.com; Joe Weihs; Johnny Boker (johnny.boker@gmail.com); Nelson Laughton (68nellie@gmail.com); Patricia O'Keefe; Rabbi Kushi Schusterman; Rev. Rick Haynes; Wendy Merz
Subject: Veterans Commission - July 6 Meeting Cancelled

The July 6th meeting of the Veterans Commission has been cancelled. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Thursday, August 3, at 6:30 PM in the 1st floor conference room, 220 S. Main Street, Bel Air.

Please contact [Art Kaff](#) if you are interested in participating in the Bel Air Parade on July 4.

Debbie Button

Legislative Aide for Councilman James V. McMahan, Jr., District C

Harford County Council | 212 S. Bond Street | Bel Air, Maryland 21014

410-638-4109, Ext. 1865

dbutton@harfordcountycouncil.com

Administrative Liaison for Harford County Commission on Veterans' Affairs

vetcommission@harfordcountymd.gov



HARFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

June 1, 2017 at 6:30 PM

County Office Building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, MD
Conference room located on ground floor.

Enter from Main Street

CALL TO ORDER –Chairman, Johnny Boker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – all in attendance

PRAYER – Deacon Vic

Welcome and opening comments

- Opening comments from Chair Johnny Boker

Mission Statement: To provide outreach and "To care for him, (them) who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" – Abraham Lincoln

Vision Statement: Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

OPENING COMMENTS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Arthur Kaff – Technology, Social Media & Legal
Bill Elliott – Technology & Represent Harford Community College
Bill Montgomery – Education, JROTC Initiative
Bill Suchting – Veterans Benefits, Represent Harford Chamber of Commerce
Hayden Anthony – Education & Community Outreach
James Castelli – Education & Veterans Outreach
Lisa Brown – Community Outreach
Larry Kimble - Vice Chairman, Outreach & Employment, (resignation)
Larry Owens – Community Outreach
Mary Worthington – Community Outreach & Employment
Pam Silcox – Education & Community Outreach
Robert Brown- Veterans Benefits, Employment, & Community Outreach
Scott Kearby – Education & Community Outreach
(Vacancy) – Represent Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander (note)

CHAPLAIN UPDATES:

Chaplain Vic Petrosino: Rabbi Kushi Schusterman: Reverend Rick Haynes:

GUEST SPEAKERS: None: Reaching out to "Maryland Heroes on the Water" email maryland@heroesonthewater.org; Jim "Coop" Cooper - 410-790-1695 to see if he can attend this meeting or next and describe the program.

OLD BUSINESS: Resignation and EOT

Sub-Committee Updates:

Committee Developments

- Veterans Benefits Updates: News, Articles, and Updates.
- Education
- JROTC
- ICT
- Community Outreach:
- Jobs (See new business)
- Legal -Veterans Courts revisit in the spring 2017

NEW BUSINESS

Harford County Council Chambers 7:30pm, 13th of June will be the HCCOVA Annual Report.

Annual Bel Air Flag Day Ceremony to be held on Saturday, June 3, 2017, beginning at 8:00 a.m., at Shamrock Park in Bel Air. The Master of Ceremony is Capt'n Jim and the guest speaker is Brigadier General William E. King IV.

New Chairman to assume C2 of the HCCOVA on June 13th at 8:30pm right after the annual report.

I personally thank the commission, Debbie, Cpt Jim, Bill Boniface and CE Bary Glassman for the fortunate opportunity to serve as Chair.

- Veterans Fair October 2017 (Our superbowl!)
- **Interest in Parade – 4th of July Parade. Haydon has the banner. We hope all will be in support of marching in this parade and Veteran's Day parade.**
- Gold Star Memorial updates from Harford County, Havre de Grace. Pictorial and artist rendition. News release and VIP invitation to the Commission Members

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

- Upcoming meetings are for your planning are held first Thursday of each month unless otherwise informed by due and timely notice.
- Next meeting will be July 6th 2017. Take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.
- Any other news item from the commission? Alibi firers?

ADJOURNMENT : Represent, Be kind, Be good and Be courteous.



HARFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

May 4, 2017 at 6:30 PM

County Office Building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, MD
Conference room located on ground floor.

Enter from Main Street

CALL TO ORDER –Chairman, Johnny Boker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – all in attendance

PRAYER – Deacon Vic

Welcome and opening comments

- Opening comments from Chair Johnny Boker

Mission Statement: To provide outreach and "To care for him, (them) who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" – Abraham Lincoln

Vision Statement: Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

OPENING COMMENTS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Arthur Kaff – Technology, Social Media & Legal
Bill Elliott – Technology & Represent Harford Community College
Bill Montgomery – Education, JROTC Initiative
Bill Suchting – Veterans Benefits, Represent Harford Chamber of Commerce
Hayden Anthony – Education & Community Outreach
James Castelli – Education & Veterans Outreach
Lisa Brown – Community Outreach
Larry Kimble - Vice Chairman, Outreach & Employment
Larry Owens – Community Outreach
Mary Worthington – Community Outreach & Employment
Pam Silcox – Education & Community Outreach
Robert Brown- Veterans Benefits, Employment, & Community Outreach
Scott Kearby – Education & Community Outreach
(Vacancy) – Represent Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander (note)

CHAPLAIN UPDATES:

Chaplain Vic Petrosino: Rabbi Kushi Schusterman: Reverend Rick Haynes:

GUEST SPEAKERS: Vote on Jim Costigans recommendation to the BOD, Mrs. Patricia Okeefe. Resume attached

OLD BUSINESS:

Sub-Committee Updates:

Committee Developments

- Veterans Benefits Updates: News, Articles, and Updates.
- Education
- JROTC
- ICT
- Community Outreach:
- Jobs (See new business)
- Legal -Veterans Courts revisit in the spring 2017

NEW BUSINESS

The 6th or the 13th of June is fine for the report.

I can meet with him next week 10th or 11th to work the report.

You are invited to the Annual Bel Air Flag Day Ceremony to be held on Saturday, June 3, 2017, beginning at 8:00 a.m., at Shamrock Park in Bel Air. The Master of Ceremony is Capt'n Jim and the guest speaker is Brigadier General William E. King IV.

- Veterans Fair 2017
- Interest in Parade – Veteran's Day Job Fairs (Submission for Veterans Day and Memorial Day Parade(Bel Air))
- Gold Star Memorial updates

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

- Upcoming meetings are for your planning are held first Thursday of each month unless otherwise informed by due and timely notice.
- Next meeting will be May 4th 2017. Take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.
- Any other news item from the commission? Alibi firers?

ADJOURNMENT : Represent, Be kind, Be good and Be courteous.



HARFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 6, 2017 at 6:30 PM

County Office Building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, MD
Conference room located on ground floor.

Enter from Main Street

CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chairman, Larry Kimble

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – all in attendance

PRAYER – Deacon Vic

WELCOME: Comments – Vice Chairman

OPENING COMMENTS FROM VICE CHAIRMAN

- Opening comments from Vice Mr. Larry Kimble

Mission Statement: To provide outreach and "To care for him, (them) who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" – Abraham Lincoln

Vision Statement: Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

OPENING COMMENTS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Arthur Kaff – Technology, Social Media & Legal
Bill Elliott – Technology & Represent Harford Community College
Bill Montgomery – Education, JROTC Initiative
Bill Suchting – Veterans Benefits, Represent Harford Chamber of Commerce
Hayden Anthony – Education & Community Outreach
James Castelli – Education & Veterans Outreach
Lisa Brown – Community Outreach
Larry Kimble - Vice Chairman, Outreach & Employment
Larry Owens – Community Outreach
Mary Worthington – Community Outreach & Employment
Pam Silcox – Education & Community Outreach
Robert Brown- Veterans Benefits, Employment, & Community Outreach
Scott Kearby – Education & Community Outreach
(Vacancy) – Represent Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander (note)

CHAPLAIN UPDATES:

Chaplain Vic Petrosino: Rabbi Kushi Schusterman: Reverend Rick Haynes:

GUEST SPEAKERS None

OLD BUSINESS: Sub-Committee Updates:

Committee Developments

- Veterans Benefits Updates: News, Articles, and Updates.
- Education
- JROTC
- ICT
- Community Outreach:
- Jobs (See new business)
- Legal -Veterans Courts revisit in the spring 2017

NEW BUSINESS

- Veterans Fair 2017
- Interest in Parade – Veteran's Day Job Fairs (Submission for Veterans Day and Memorial Day Parade)

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

- Upcoming meetings are for your planning are held first Thursday of each month unless otherwise informed by due and timely notice.
- Next meeting will be May 4th 2017. Take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.
- Any other news item from the commission? Alibi firers?

ADJOURNMENT : Represent, Be kind, Be good and Be courteous.

Harford County
Commission on Veteran Affairs
March 2, 2017
Meeting Minutes

The meeting was opened at 6:30 PM with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members participated in an opening prayer lead by Decon Vic.

Vice Chairman Larry Kimble was in charge of the meeting due to the absence of Chairman Johnny Boker.

Discussion of the Commission's Mission Statement.

Introduction of guest, Roslyn Jones and Greg Ingram.

Authur Kaff: The Facebook Page has 288 likes, it continues to grow. No News on Veterans Court.

Bill Elliott – Not Present

Bill Montgomery – Discussion on APG's 100th Anniversary and activities planned. Reported no change on ROTC status as they are awaiting information on funding.

Bill Suchting- Not Present

Anthony Hayden – Not Present

James Castelli- Not Present

Lisa Brown – No Report

Larry Kimble continues to post available jobs for veterans on the facebook page.

Larry Owen – Not Present

Pam Silcox – Not Present

Bob Brown – Discussion on APG Retirement May 13th, 2017.

The Commission discussed the need for business cards in activities. There have been homemade cards utilized in the past but something more official is required.

Discussion on Veterans Fair scheduled for October 7th, 2017. Plans are still being formulated but ideas for a Keynote or "Big Draw" are needed.

Presentation – Veterans talking to Veterans.

Presentation: Roslyn Jones, Veteran Employment Manager. Commission discussion on Veteran Job opportunities.

Chaplain – Rick Hayes not present.

Decon Vic: Discussion on visits to hospitals. Veteran information cannot always be provided to Commission due to potential HIPPA violations.

Scott Kearby – Update to website with corrections. Larry now listed as Vice chair and Mary's name has been corrected.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Next meeting April 6th, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary K. Worthington

OLD BUSINESS

Resource Fair – Pam Silcox, Hayden Anthony and Lisa Brown provided updates to the Veteran Resource Fair planning.

- There are over 24 vendors scheduled to attend.
- Commission members will be needed to help set up and assist during the event, and then clean up. Hayden suggested members show up at 7:45am.
- Hayden verified Cindy Smith will give a short talk on benefits.
- Opening remarks: Unfortunately County Executive (Glassman) has another commitment at the same time and will not be able to attend.
- Singing of National Anthem is by Rachel Acevedo. Marine Corp League will post the colors.
- Logistics. There will be more tables needed than last year. Tables will be in parallel rows and not in a U shape to accommodate the addition of more vendors. Lisa will bring 6 additional tables to the armory.
- Pam reviewed the tentative program of events and Robert Brown discussed marketing and publicity for the resource fair, including the Aegis, HC website, flyers, and banners.
- Lisa Brown provided an update on refreshments, including sandwiches from Mission BBQ, paid for by HC government.
- There will be a free raffle for attendees. Members are asked to bring an item for the raffle. Examples are gift cards, military items, books, etc. Lisa Brown will be collecting the items.

Mission and Vision Review – Jim Castelli led a reading and review of the proposed changes to Commission Duties as specified in the Bylaws. After considerable discussion of several proposals, a motion was made by Bill Montgomery to change the mission and vision statements. After Pam Silcox seconded the motion, commission members unanimously approved the new statements. Councilman McMahon will be consulted on the proposal.

Mission: To advocate for our veterans and their families, and connect them to resources through outreach and education.

Vision: A Harford County community that is responsive to the needs of Veterans and their families.

NEW BUSINESS

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 2, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Prepared by Lisa Brown



HARFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

March 2, 2017 at 6:30 PM

County Office Building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, MD
Conference room located on ground floor.

Enter from Main Street

CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chairman, Larry Kimble

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – all in attendance

PRAYER – Deacon Vic

WELCOME: Comments – Vice Chairman

OPENING COMMENTS FROM VICE CHAIRMAN

- Opening comments from Vice Mr. Larry Kimble

Mission Statement: To provide outreach and "To care for him, (them) who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" – Abraham Lincoln

Vision Statement: Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

OPENING COMMENTS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Arthur Kaff – Technology, Social Media & Legal
Bill Elliott – Technology & Represent Harford Community College
Bill Montgomery – Education, JROTC Initiative
Bill Suchting – Veterans Benefits, Represent Harford Chamber of Commerce
Hayden Anthony – Education & Community Outreach
James Castelli – Education & Veterans Outreach
Lisa Brown – Community Outreach
Larry Kimble - Vice Chairman, Outreach & Employment
Larry Owens – Community Outreach
Mary Worthington – Community Outreach & Employment
Pam Silcox – Education & Community Outreach
Robert Brown- Veterans Benefits, Employment, & Community Outreach
Scott Kearby – Education & Community Outreach
(Vacancy) – Represent Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander (note)

CHAPLAIN UPDATES:

Chaplain Vic Petrosino: Rabbi Kushi Schusterman: Reverend Rick Haynes:

GUEST SPEAKERS None

OLD BUSINESS: Sub-Committee Updates:

Committee Developments

- Veterans Benefits Updates: News, Articles, and Updates.
- Education
- JROTC
- ICT
- Community Outreach:
- Jobs (See new business)
- Legal -Veterans Courts revisit in the spring 2017

NEW BUSINESS

- Veterans Fair 2017
- Interest in Parade – Veteran's Day Job Fairs (Submission for Veterans Day and Memorial Day Parade)

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

- Upcoming meetings are for your planning are held first Thursday of each month unless otherwise informed by due and timely notice.
- Next meeting will be April 6th 2017. Take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.
- Any other news item from the commission? Alibi firers?

ADJOURNMENT : Represent, Be kind, Be good and Be courteous.



HARFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

February 2, 2017 at 6:30 PM

County Office Building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, MD

Conference room located on ground floor.

Enter from Main Street

CALL TO ORDER – Chair, Johnny Boker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – all in attendance

PRAYER – Deacon Vic

WELCOME: Comments - Johnny Boker – New Year with added challenges

OPENING COMMENTS FROM VICE CHAIRMAN

- Opening comments from Vice Mr. Larry Kimble

~Mission Statement: To provide outreach and "To care for him, (them) who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" – Abraham Lincoln

~Vision Statement: Educate ourselves in order to educate others. To thwart the stigma of neglected Warriors. Provide immediate actions and response times.

OPENING COMMENTS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

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Robert Brown- Veterans Benefits, Employment, & Community Outreach
Scott Kearby – Education & Community Outreach
(Vacancy) – Represent Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander (note)

CHAPLAIN UPDATES:

Chaplain Vic Petrosino: Rabbi Kushi Schusterman: Reverend Rick Haynes:

GUEST SPEAKERS (1)

Mr. Glenn Monrad of Suiting Warriors and his effort to gather professional attire for Vets transitioning out of services or reentering the job market.

Mr. Glenn would like to be updated on current and future fairs and events where vets are present.

OLD BUSINESS: Sub-Committee Updates:

Committee Developments

- Veterans Benefits Updates: News, Articles, and Updates.
 - Education
 - JROTC
 - ICT
 - Community Outreach: Veterans Fair data. **Numbers/Hours/Prep Hours.**
 - First Fridays and Farmers Markets, venues of outreach
 - Jobs (See new business)
 - Legal -Veterans Courts revisit in the spring 2017
-
- Holiday visits to veterans hospitalized or home
 - Holiday Observances in Harford County
 - Toys for Tots POC Craig Reeling @ craig.reeling@marylandmarines.org

NEW BUSINESS

- Veterans Fair 2017
- Interest in Parade – Veteran's Day

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

- Upcoming meetings are for your planning are held first Thursday of each month unless otherwise informed by due and timely notice.
- Next meeting will be March 2nd 2017. Take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.
- Any other news item from the commission? Alibi firers?

ADJOURNMENT : Represent, Be kind, Be good and Be courteous.